
INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY
SOCY 1001, Spring Semester 2015

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Graduate Teaching Assistants (see course website for office hours and locations):

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OVERVIEW: This course provides an introduction to Sociology as a social science. During the semester, we make use of various sociological perspectives to examine social patterns, processes, institutions, as well as social problems. We use Sociology to help us make sense of our world and a variety of social issues. The Teaching Assistants and myself especially hope that after this course, you can apply your “Sociological Imagination” to better understand the social forces that shape all of our lives.

SPECIFIC AIMS: You should leave this course with:

- ◆ an understanding of several different Sociological perspectives, particularly the *Sociological Imagination*;
- ◆ the ability to apply Sociological perspectives to understand society generally, as well as to understand the causes and consequences of various social problems;
- ◆ insight into the critical link between societal and individual circumstances;
- ◆ appreciation of the myriad components of society and the influence these components have on societal members.

REQUIRED TEXT: Witt, Jon. 2014 (Edition 3, updated) *SOC*. McGraw-Hill: New York, NY. ISBN 9780078026744.

This latest edition contains some updates. Students may purchase used, earlier editions but you must take full responsibility for difference in content (eg., if exam question is missed based on book content updates, that is your responsibility, not Prof. Hunter's).

OTHER REQUIREMENTS: In a large class of this nature, it is imperative that procedures and expectations be clearly outlined. The information below is designed to clearly specify the structure of this course. In order to be fair to all students, this structure is not flexible except for particularly extenuating circumstances. Unless this is the case, **please do not request “bending” of the rules.** It’s just not fair.

FORMAT: The course is composed of lectures and recitation sections. Lectures take place in Chem 140, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30-10:20 am. In addition, you **must** be enrolled in a recitation section, otherwise you are not enrolled in the general course. Recitations meet weekly and are primarily led by one of the course’s Teaching Assistants (TAs). For most weeks, you will read one chapter of the textbook (Witt 2014) as well as engage supplementary material posted on the course website.

Lectures will focus on textbook material, while weekly recitation discussions will center on the supplementary readings as related to textbook material. Most weeks, a short writing assignment is also due in recitations. And in many weeks, you’ll do in-class exercises in recitation aimed to bring Sociology to life.

Professor Hunter and the TAs meet weekly to standardize material covered in recitation sections. As such, although each TA has a unique perspective and teaching style, the core material covered within recitations is similar.

EVALUATION: Many different components, from both lecture and recitation sections, will make up your course grade. This makes the course far more complicated to manage – but offers you a variety of pathways for you to demonstrate your Sociological skills! We trust this is preferable to having most of the class evaluation bundled into one or two exams.

Please note, too, the graduated valuation for exams --- more weight is placed on exams as the semester progresses – as your Sociological foundation becomes more firm and your familiarity with the exam format increases. Over the years, this has proven to be most fair.

Finally, please note that recitation attendance, participation, and writing assignments comprise over one-third of your course grade. As such, you simply cannot do well in this class without taking both lecture AND recitation seriously!

Exam 1 (<u>Tues, Feb 10</u> , during lecture session)	10%
Exam 2 (<u>Thurs, Mar 5</u> , during lecture session)	15%
Exam 3 (<u>Thurs, April 9</u> , during lecture session) ...	15%
Final (Exam 4) (<u>Sun, May 3, 4:30 pm</u>)	25%
Recitation attendance	10%
Recitation participation	5%
Recitation assignments.....	20%

Questions about grades should first be addressed to your TA since he/she has your records. Contact Prof. Hunter if questions remain.

Recitation assignments (20%): During 8 of the semester's weeks, a typed, printed assignment is due. These are to be double-spaced, no less than 0.75" margins and no longer than 1 full page, 12-point font. *Your TA will not read past the first page.*

Weekly recitation assignments are due prior to the **beginning** of your recitation session meeting and are to be submitted via D2L prior to start of class. The deadline for timing is firm, these assignments must be handed in prior to the start of your recitation.

Also bring a hard copy to recitation.

All required information for these assignments can be found on the D2L site 4 days before due.

Recitation attendance (10%): Attendance in recitation is another important part of this course. Students are allowed **three excused absences**.

An excused absence meaning **prior notification** of your TA that that you will be absent (an email sent *prior to start of class* is considered appropriate prior notification; an email after the start of class, even if by 2 minutes, is not prior notification).

For recitation, excused absences authorize a student to turn in class assignments without penalty *within 4 days* of the missed class and these makeup assignments. These are to be turned in via D2L.

Again, there can be no more than three excused absences in the semester, so try not to use them up early (unless you must!) This policy is quite generous but requires that you think ahead and plan appropriately.

Other absences will be considered unexcused and will affect your recitation attendance/participation grade. In addition, as mentioned above, **no make-ups** will be allowed for assignments due during a recitation session for which the student has an unexcused absence.

Recitation participation (5%): In addition to simply being present in recitation, your TA will keep track of, and evaluate, your contribution to recitation discussion. This is also worth 5% of your overall course grade – these are easy points so speak up, participate and stretch that *Sociological Imagination!* To add another opportunity for participation, later weeks may have online discussion boards through D2L. Expectations will be outlined in class.

EXPECTATIONS: You are responsible for the material and announcements presented during all lectures, therefore it is your responsibility to get missed notes and announcements from fellow students.

Finally, please try to not disrupt the ability of other students to learn from the lectures; **try not to** arrive late, leave early, read the paper, talk during class, or forget to turn your phone off. These behaviors are distracting and disrespectful.

MAKE-UPS: On missed recitation sessions, again, there can be no more than three excused absences from recitations, so try not to use them up early (unless you must!). This policy is quite generous but requires that you think ahead and plan appropriately. Other absences will be considered unexcused and will affect your recitation attendance/participation grade. In addition, as mentioned above, **no make-ups** will be allowed for assignments due during a recitation session for which the student has an unexcused absence.

On missed exams, the exam dates are provided below. This calendar is provided early in order that you can identify any potential conflicts as soon as possible. Excused absences from exams are **rarely granted**, must be a result of **extenuating circumstances**, and must be coordinated with Professor Hunter **at least one week in advance** of the absence.

There are no make-ups for the final exam, and anyone **NOT** taking the final (Exam 4) will fail the course, no exceptions. This is a comprehensive exam and is, therefore, important in bringing together the entire semester's material. **Be sure to communicate with family and friends as they make plans for the beginning of summer break ~ no early plane tickets!**

University policy explains that if you have three or more final exams scheduled on the same day, you are entitled to arrange an alternative exam time *for the last exam or exams scheduled on that day*. To qualify for rescheduling final exam times, you must provide evidence that you have three or more exams on the same day, and arrangements must be made with Dr. Hunter no later than the end of the sixth week of the semester.

MISC: **Computers and phones are NOT allowed in either the lecture hall nor recitation sections.**

On weekly writing assignments, it is fine to discuss the material and explore shared ideas with fellow students. However, **submitted written work must be your individual effort**. To do otherwise constitutes **plagiarism** which is defined as “the use of another’s ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgment.” (<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/acadinteg.html>; Dec 2005). Plagiarism of any nature (including from the internet) will result in a Violation Report being filed with the University’s Honor Code office. We take this very seriously.

Students are responsible for keeping copies of all returned, graded work in the event there is a grade dispute at semester’s end. For example, if our course records show an exam score of “85” but you claim you received a “91” but don’t have the returned exam, your grade will remain “85.”

If you qualify for accommodations because of a **disability**, please submit to Professor Hunter a letter from Disability Services (DS) early in the semester (**by the end of the 3rd week**) so that your needs may be addressed. DS determines accommodations based on documented disabilities (303-492-8671, Willard 322, www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices).

Please review the course schedule ASAP. If you have conflicts between **religious observance** dates and course examinations or assignments, let Professor Hunter or your TA know **by the end of the 3rd week of the semester**.

The University has a **classroom behavior** policy. Students are required to adhere to the behavior standards in the policy: <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html>.

Finally, the University of Colorado Policy on Sexual Harassment applies to all students, staff and faculty. Sexual harassment can involve intimidation, threats, coercion, or promises that create an environment that is hostile or offensive. Harassment may occur between members of the same or opposite gender and between any combination of members in the campus community: students, faculty, staff, and administrators. Harassment can occur anywhere on campus, including the classroom, the workplace, or a residence hall. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been sexually harassed should contact the Office of Sexual Harassment (OSH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. <http://www.colorado.edu/odh/>.

TOPICS, WEEKLY READINGS, RECITATION ASSIGNMENTS

- ◆ A calendar follows this list.

UNDERSTANDING SOCIOLOGY

- ◆ Chapter 1, "The Sociological Imagination" (in Witt, *SOC*)
- ◆ Mills, "The Sociological Imagination" (course website)
- ◆ No recitation writing assignment this week

SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH

- ◆ Chapter 2, "Sociological Research" (in Witt, *SOC*)
- ◆ Assigned additional reading material (course website)
- ◆ Writing assignment (course website)

CULTURE

- ◆ Chapter 3, "Culture" (in Witt, *SOC*)
- ◆ Assigned additional reading material (course website)
- ◆ Writing assignment (course website)

SOCIALIZATION

- ◆ Chapter 4, "Socialization" (in Witt, *SOC*)
- ◆ Assigned additional reading material (course website)
- ◆ Recitation writing assignment (course website)

SOCIAL STRUCTURE & INTERACTION

- ◆ Chapter 5, “Social Structure & Interaction” (in Witt, *SOC*)
- ◆ Assigned additional reading material (course website)
- ◆ Recitation writing assignment (course website)

GENDER

- ◆ Chapter 12, “Gender and Sexuality” (in Witt, *SOC*)
- ◆ Assigned additional reading material (course website)
- ◆ Recitation writing assignment (course website)

RACE AND ETHNICITY

- ◆ Chapter 13, “Race and Ethnicity” (in Witt, *SOC*)
- ◆ Assigned additional reading material (course website)
- ◆ Recitation writing assignment (course website)

DEVIANCE

- ◆ Chapter 6, “Deviance” (in Witt, *SOC*)
- ◆ Assigned additional reading material (course website)
- ◆ Recitation writing assignment (course website)

FAMILIES

- ◆ Chapter 7, “Families” (in Witt, *SOC*)
- ◆ Assigned additional reading material (course website)
- ◆ Recitation writing assignment (course website)

SOCIAL CLASS

- ◆ Chapter 10, “Social Class” (in Witt, *SOC*)
- ◆ Assigned additional reading material (course website)
- ◆ Recitation writing assignment (course website)

GLOBAL INEQUALITY

- ◆ Chapter 11 “Global Inequality” (in Witt, *SOC*)
- ◆ Assigned additional reading material (course website)
- ◆ Recitation writing assignment (course website)

ENVIRONMENT

- ◆ Chapter 14, section on environment in “Health, Medicine and Environment” (in Witt, *SOC*)
- ◆ Assigned additional reading material (course website)
- ◆ Recitation writing assignment (course website)

SOCIAL CHANGE

- ◆ Chapter 15, “Social Change” (in Witt, *SOC*)
- ◆ No recitation reading or Recitation writing assignment for this week.

NOTES:

* Use this calendar in combination with the prior weekly reading list to clarify assignments for lecture days as well as YOUR recitation day.

* Recitations **ARE** also held on days labeled "TAs Agenda." These are days where the TA designs the recitation content.

* Each recitation has 1 day off through the course of the semester and 2 days with "TAs Agenda."

	JANUARY	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lectures:		12	13	14	15	16
Recitations:		Introductions, overview	Review syllabus Ch. 1 (Witt) Soc Imagination	Introductions, overview	Ch. 1 (Witt) Soc Imagination	Introductions, overview
Lectures:		19	20	21	22	23
Recitations:		MLK Jr. Holiday No recitations today !	Chs 1 & 2 (Witt) Soc Imagination Soc Research	Ch 1-2 Witt Website material/assignmt	Ch 2 (Witt) Soc Research	Ch 1-2 Witt Website material/assignmt
Lectures:		26	27	28	29	30
Recitations:		Ch 1-2 Witt Website material/assignmt	Ch 3 (Witt) Culture	Ch 3 Witt Website material/assignmt	Ch 3 (Witt) Culture	Ch 3 Witt Website material/assignmt
Lectures:	FEBRUARY	2	3	4	5	6
Recitations:		Ch 3 Witt Website material/assignmt	Ch 4 (Witt) Socialization	Ch 4 Witt Website material/assignmt	Ch 4 (Witt) Socialization	Ch 4 Witt Website material/assignmt
Lectures:		9	10	11	12	13
Recitations:		Ch 4 Witt Website material/assignmt	TEST #1 Covering Lecture & Recitation Material Thus Far	No recitation today !	Ch 5 (Witt) Social Interaction & Social Structure	Ch 5 Witt Website material/assignmt
Lectures:		16	17	18	19	20
Recitations:		Ch 5 Witt Website material/assignmt	Ch 5 (Witt) Social Interaction & Social Structure	Ch 5 Witt Website material/assignmt	Ch 12 (Witt) Gender & Sexuality	Ch 12 Witt Website material/assignmt
Lectures:		23	24	25	26	27
Recitations:		Ch 12 Witt Website material/assignmt	Ch 12 (Witt) Gender & Sexuality	Ch 12 Witt Website material/assignmt	Ch 13 (Witt) Race & Ethnicity	Ch 13 Witt Website material/assignmt
Lectures:	MARCH	2	3	4	5	6
Recitations:		Ch 13 Witt Website material/assignmt	Ch 13 (Witt) Race & Ethnicity	Ch 13 Witt Website material/assignmt	TEST #2 Lectures & Recitation Since Test #1	No recitation today!

Lectures:	9	10 Ch 6 (Witt) Deviance	11	12 Ch 6 (Witt) Deviance	13
Recitations:	TAs Agenda ...		Ch 6 Witt Website material/assignmt		Ch 6 Witt Website material/assignmt
Lectures:	16	17 Ch 7 (Witt) Families	18	19 Ch 7 (Witt) Families	20
Recitations:	Ch 6 Witt Website material/assignmt		Ch 7 Witt Website material/assignmt		Ch 7 Witt Website material/assignmt
	23	24	25	26	27
	SPRING BREAK SPRING BREAK SPRING BREAK SPRING BREAK SPRING BREAK SPRING BREAK				
APRIL					
Lectures:	30	31 Ch 7 (Witt) Families Ch 10 (Witt) Social Class	1	2 Ch 10 (Witt) Social Class	3
Recitations:	Ch 7 Witt Website material/assignmt		Ch 10 Social Class Website material/assignmt		Ch 10 Social Class Website material/assignmt
Lectures:	6	7 Ch 10 (Witt) Social Class	8	9 TEST #3 Lectures & Recitations since Test #2	10
Recitations:	Ch 10 Social Class Website material/assignmt		TAs Agenda		TAs Agenda
Lectures:	13	14 Ch 11 (Witt) Global Inequality	15	16 Ch 11 (Witt) Global Inequality	17
Recitations:	TAs Agenda		Ch 11 Witt Website material/assignmt		Ch 11 Witt Website material/assignmt
Lectures:	20	21 Ch 14 (Witt) Health, Medicine & Environment (Section on Env)	22	23 Ch 14 (Witt) Health, Medicine & Environment (Section on Env)	24
Recitations:	Ch 11 Witt Website material/assignmt		Ch 14 Witt (Env) Website material/assignmt		Ch 14 Witt (Env) Website material/assignmt
Lectures:	27	28 Ch 15 (Witt) Social Change	29	30 Ch 15 (Witt) Social Change	1
Recitations:	Ch 14 Witt (Env) Website material/assignmt		TAs Agenda		TAs Agenda

***** **COMPREHENSIVE FINAL EXAM: Sunday, May 2, 4:30pm, CHEM 140**